GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3676
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2010
SURVEY ON SMALL AND MARGINAL FARMERS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to undertake research and planning on the condition of small and marginal farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to provide more grant to such farmers to purchase small machines including power tiller; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): Indian agriculture is predominantly small holder agriculture. This feature of land holding is kept in view while developing various kinds of technologies. Researchers are also sensitized about the need for developing technologies that are appropriate for small and marginal farmers. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has given due attention to develop equipment and hand tools for these categories of farmers through All India Coordinated Research Projects spread all over the country, addressing region specific mechanization needs.

The Government of India is implementing a number of schemes and also undertakes research activities through Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) etc., for increasing agricultural productivity and output, in the overall interest of farmers including small and marginal farmers. Some of the schemes are Macro Management of Agriculture, National Food Security Mission, National Horticulture Mission, National Agricultural Insurance Scheme, Micro Irrigation etc.

(c) & (d): Assistance is provided under Macro Management of Agriculture, National Food Security Mission, National Horticulture Mission etc. for the purchase of machines and implements to farmers including small and marginal farmers. There is no proposal under consideration at present to enhance grants to small and marginal farmers to purchase small machines including power tiller.